

GOVERNMENT LIBRARY
STATISTICIAN'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 1956

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Issued by the Government Statistician (Mr. R. J. Little), Perth

- 9 MAR 1956

1st March, 1956

This report gives particulars relative to the following items:-

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POPULATION ESTIMATES

Whole State at 30th September, 1955 -

Males - 341,642 Females - 322,446 Persons - 664,083

Metropolitan Area at 30th June, 1955 -

Persons - 359,000

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS - WESTERN AUSTRALIA

	<u>DECEMBER</u>		<u>Twelve Months ended DECEMBER</u>	
	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>
Marriages - Number	496	483	5,145	5,204
* Rate per 1000 of Population	8.73	8.77	7.81	8.13
Births - Number	1,235	1,429	16,623	15,928
* Rate per 1000 of Population	21.74	25.94	25.24	24.88
Deaths - Number	414	492	5,379	5,364
* Rate per 1000 of Population	7.29	8.93	8.17	8.38
Infant - Number	34	29	373	359
Mortality * Rate per 1000 Live Births	27.53	20.29	22.44	22.54
<u>PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH -</u>				
Tuberculosis	3	6	35	61
Malignant neoplasms	68	82	748	781
Diabetes mellitus	8	3	60	55
Diseases of blood, etc.	-	-	17	16
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	58	53	649	629
Diseases of the heart	124	150	1,722	1,674
Hypertension with heart disease	10	19	143	178
Hypertensive disease without mention of heart	7	6	70	85
Arteriosclerosis	8	8	146	136
Influenza	1	-	10	31
Pneumonia	4	18	183	167
Bronchitis	3	6	47	48
Other respiratory disease	4	6	60	55
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	2	29	44
Gastro-enteritis and colitis	-	4	21	32
Chronic enteritis and ulcerative colitis	1	-	8	7
Cirrhosis of the liver	3	4	21	21
Nephritis and nephrosis	9	7	69	80
Disease of the prostate	-	4	49	53
Maternal causes	2	2	13	12
Disease of early infancy	27	8	217	220
Motor Vehicle Accidents	12	18	188	182
Other Accidents	12	20	209	194
Suicide	4	13	85	76
All other causes	43	53	580	527
Total:	414	492	5,379	5,364

* Equivalent Annual Rate.

† Deaths under one year.

1960-1961. The author wishes to thank Dr. J. C. G. van der Horst for his help in the preparation of the manuscript.

LAND SETTLEMENT

Land taken up under conditional alienation during January, 1956, totalled 93,404 acres, an increase of 39,619 acres on the corresponding month last year. Pastoral, special and miscellaneous leases registered amounted to 4,434 acres, a decrease of 18,195.

STATE GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Item	Month of JANUARY		Seven Months ended JANUARY	
	1956	1955	1956	1955
Revenue	£.	£.	£.	£.
Revenue per Head of Population	4,131,233	3,594,360	26,900,185	24,712,629
Expenditure	6. 3. 2	5. 10. 7	40. 9. 0	38. 6. 1
Expenditure per Head of Population	3,851,416	3,406,214	29,452,834	25,567,901
	5. 14. 10	5. 4. 10	44. 5. 10	39. 12. 7

SAVINGS BANKS

Depositors' Balances on the 31st January, 1956, amounted to £54,148,680 or £80.11.7 per head of population as against £53,060,052 or £81.11.3 per head as at the 31st January last year.

BANK CLEARANCES

The average weekly clearance for the period ended 25th January, 1956, amounted to £15,904,775 compared with £15,077,015 for the corresponding period last year.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Registrations effected at the Office of Land Titles and Deeds	JANUARY		Seven Months ended JANUARY	
	1956	1955	1956	1955
Transfers	No. 1,192	£. 1,624,850	1,457	11,299
Mortgages	No. 851	£. 2,267,900	2,271,854	16,207,131
Discharges of Mortgages	No. 700	£. 700	939	7,531
			1,881,291	15,704,689
			667	5,572
				13,908
				20,815,346
				10,229
				19,107,637
				6,837

SALES TAX: SALES OF TAXABLE AND EXEMPT GOODS AND TAX COLLECTED

Period of Receipt of Returns	Taxable Goods		Sales of Exempt Goods	Tax Collected
	Sales in respect of which Tax is Payable (Net)	Sales in respect of which Tax is NOT Payable (Gross)		
January, 1956	£. 5,149,608	£. 2,526,634	£. 12,410,307	£. 543,326
January, 1955	4,473,326	1,826,250	9,394,056	539,168
Seven months ended January, 1956	27,001,972	17,546,062	66,077,976	3,332,254
Seven months ended January, 1955	26,862,599	14,100,536	63,644,844	3,448,126

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COMPANIES REGISTERED

123 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £6,339,000 and 53 Foreign Companies were registered during the seven months ended January, 1956. Registrations for the corresponding period last year comprised 149 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £22,304,500 and 57 Foreign Companies.

BANKRUPTCY

Item	Seven Months ended JANUARY					
	1956			1955		
	No.	Liabilities	Assets	No.	Liabilities	Assets
Sequestration Orders	39	62,182	22,493	32	74,328	33,242
Deeds of Assignment (a)	30	142,055	138,666	14	63,874	78,287
Deeds of Arrangement	2	8,732	6,118	1	1,223	274

(a) Includes Compositions and Schemes of Arrangement.

TRANSPORT

The operations of the State Government Railways, open for General and Passenger traffic, were as follows:-

Item	DECEMBER		Six Months ended DECEMBER	
	1955	1954	1955	1954
Gross Earnings (a)* £.	1,098,400	1,084,200	6,507,700	6,198,500
Working Expenses (a) £.	1,227,639	1,017,273	7,522,427	6,842,587
Train Miles Run No.	705,150	698,985	4,157,991	3,845,781
Motor Bus Miles Run No.	(b) 109,396	(b) 116,528	(c) 693,774	(c) 747,938
<u>Passenger Journeys</u> -				
Train	No.	893,334	844,411	5,927,243
Motor Bus	No.	27,465	30,508	162,103
<u>Tonnage Carried</u> -				
Paying Goods		314,864	285,345	1,715,655
Livestock		10,272	9,755	83,755
Departmental (Free Freight)		52,994	83,207	395,658
Total:		378,130	378,307	2,195,068
<u>Net Ton Mileage of</u> -				
Paying Goods		49,077,284	47,883,512	289,259,477
Livestock		1,336,917	1,220,275	11,202,775
Departmental (Free Freight)		5,743,472	10,374,671	43,852,967
Total:		56,157,673	59,478,458	344,315,219
				335,411,968

(a) Includes operations of the Railway Road Service.

(b) Four weeks ended 10th December.

(c) Period ended 10th December.

* Figures liable to revision.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

(1) NEW VEHICLES REGISTERED (EXCLUDING COMMONWEALTH-OWNED VEHICLES)

Period	Metropolitan Area				Entire State			
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles
Year 1951	4,263	2,088	51	1,886	7,914	5,730	101	3,192
Year 1952	4,088	2,006	74	1,121	8,068	5,471	112	1,939
Year 1953	4,460	1,869	57	746	8,152	5,015	76	1,239
Year 1954	6,499	2,487	34	736	11,657	6,000	70	1,267
Year 1955	6,852	2,533	18	701	11,591	5,473	59	1,126
<u>1955 -</u>								
January	391	177	2	42	688	393	3	87
February	634	196	1	71	1,025	436	10	104
March	670	224	1	65	1,145	497	4	103
April	576	187	—	48	971	383	—	88
May	581	213	1	67	999	489	8	106
June	571	230	1	54	970	492	5	79
July	494	207	1	51	847	478	3	87
August	593	262	—	47	953	523	—	82
September	632	222	4	62	1,067	435	10	85
October	603	218	1	53	1,038	461	5	88
November	567	233	—	77	965	473	3	117
December	540	164	6	64	923	413	8	100

(2) MOTOR VEHICLES IN USE (EFFECTIVE REGISTRATIONS) ↗

Date (as at end of Month)	Metropolitan Area				Entire State			
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles
<u>1954 -</u>	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
June	47,819	20,400	593	9,692	78,217	58,471	1,117	15,237
December	52,072	21,721	590	9,713	84,868	60,144	1,136	14,886
<u>1955 -</u>								
January	52,634	21,971	590	9,704	84,141	58,281	1,043	14,037
February	53,075	22,093	590	9,699	85,797	59,931	1,131	14,427
March	53,656	22,225	562	9,644	87,219	60,793	1,133	14,594
April	54,105	22,367	560	9,628	87,473	60,217	1,119	14,313
May	54,508	22,424	557	9,561	88,887	61,244	1,124	14,508
June	55,720	22,694	555	9,605	90,151	61,946	1,131	14,652
July	57,067	23,234	555	9,561	90,186	60,082	1,127	13,879
August	57,450	23,392	559	9,493	90,929	60,501	1,131	13,846
September	57,997	23,481	563	9,473	91,911	60,803	1,141	13,849
October	58,557	23,618	558	9,425	92,397	60,596	1,128	13,642
November	58,759	23,680	560	9,402	93,562	61,696	1,136	13,901
December	59,374	23,666	562	9,342	94,907	62,324	1,141	14,035

↗ Excluding Commonwealth-Owned Vehicles which comprised for December, 1955:-
98 Cars; 813 Wagons, Vans, etc. 7 Buses and 6 Motor Cycles.

TRADE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INTERSTATE AND OVERSEAS)
Expressed in terms of Australian Currency

Item	IMPORTS				EXPORTS (Including Ships' Stores)			
	DECEMBER		6 Months ended DECEMBER		DECEMBER		6 Months ended DECEMBER	
	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954
Oversea	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000
Interstate	4,095	3,542	24,441	23,342	6,160	7,684	35,685	31,592
	6,107	6,652	43,271	45,746	3,143	1,201	20,612	7,593
Total:	10,202	10,194	67,712	69,088	9,303	8,885	56,297	39,185

BUILDING ACTIVITY

(1) NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED

Period	Dwellings				Factories		Other		Total	
	Owner-Built		By Contractors etc. (a)							
	No.	Value £,000	No.	Value £,000	No.	Value £,000	No.	Value £,000	No.	Value £,000
Year 1946	55	32	1,316	1,221	52	82	145	192	1,568	1,527
Year 1947	165	109	2,245	2,380	37	64	164	327	2,611	2,880
Year 1948	514	346	2,544	3,041	49	160	268	431	3,375	3,978
Year 1949	825	693	2,485	3,476	57	215	317	657	3,684	5,041
Year 1950	1,313	1,365	3,331	4,727	41	263	428	651	5,113	7,006
Year 1951	1,913	2,835	4,137	6,969	40	459	433	986	6,523	11,249
Year 1952	2,883	5,824	4,946	11,201	63	667	604	2,424	8,496	19,934
Year 1953	2,988	7,219	4,839	12,624	84	817	714	3,657	8,625	24,317
Year 1954	3,127	8,255	5,044	13,491	111	1,544	844	5,015	9,126	28,305
<u>1955 -</u>										
March Qr.	671	1,916	1,272	3,610	32	1,235	185	1,573	2,160	8,334
June Qr.	771	2,209	1,941	5,340	33	851	229	1,260	2,974	9,660
Sept. Qr.	598	1,816	1,465	4,097	36	1,064	235	2,569	2,334	9,546

(a) Comprises Government Day Labour as well as Private Contractor Operations and includes Shop Dwellings, Flats and Other Residential excluded from Table (2) hereunder.

(2) HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

(Includes Owner-Built Homes)

Period	Houses Completed - Classified According to Materials of Outer Walls									
	Brick, Stone, Concrete, etc.		Wood or Mainly Wood		Fibro-Cement or Mainly Fibro Cement		Other		Total	
	No.	Value £,000	No.	Value £,000	No.	Value £,000	No.	Value £,000	No.	Value £,000
Year 1946	578	640	186	140	373	296	227	172	1,364	1,248
Year 1947	1,114	1,365	257	196	966	862	62	47	2,399	2,470
Year 1948	1,252	1,715	326	249	1,436	1,348	29	22	3,043	3,334
Year 1949	1,449	2,235	228	191	1,571	1,649	42	43	3,290	4,118
Year 1950	1,709	2,882	337	311	2,262	2,572	55	48	4,363	5,813
Year 1951	2,155	4,560	453	525	2,933	4,241	190	218	5,731	9,544
Year 1952	3,006	8,097	745	1,609	3,844	6,678	135	263	7,730	16,647
Year 1953	2,676	8,417	976	2,657	3,966	8,277	24	54	7,642	19,405
Year 1954	2,865	9,767	214	530	4,823	10,833	4	4	7,906	21,134
<u>1955 -</u>										
March Qr.	685	2,449	30	70	1,158	2,760	1	1	1,874	5,280
June Qr.	855	2,996	91	257	1,662	3,972	-	-	2,608	7,225
Sept. Qr.	734	2,692	38	103	1,176	2,810	3	6	1,951	5,611

GOLD PRODUCTION

Item	JANUARY		12 Months ended December	
	1956	1955	1955	1954
GOLD				
Quantity	Fine ozs.	66,388	65,711	842,005
Value (Aust. Currency)*	£.	1,042,881	1,026,730	13,155,329
Dividends reported by Gold Mining Companies	£.	-	-	2,049,121
				1,784,893

* Excludes premiums on gold sold for industrial purposes.

RETAIL PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

(Base of Each Series : Weighted Average of Six Capitals for 1923/27 = 1000)

Centre	Food and Groceries				"C" Series			
	DECEMBER Quarter		Twelve Months ended DECEMBER		DECEMBER Quarter		Twelve Months ended DECEMBER	
	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954
Metropolitan Area	2878	2798	2868	2802	2573	2502	2554	2459
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	3082	2953	3049	2910	2519	2442	2493	2426
Northam	2916	2858	2924	2817	2516	2470	2508	2417
Bunbury	2978	2853	2958	2841	2589	2512	2569	2447
Geraldton	2984	2887	2964	2870	2771	2638	2702	2577
Collie	2996	2886	2976	2869	2382	2316	2365	2299

ESTIMATED TOTAL EMPLOYMENT

(Excluding Rural and Private Domestic)

Figures supplied by Commonwealth Statistician

Month	1954			1955		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
January	133,021	41,620	174,641	135,624	42,794	178,418
February	133,165	42,375	175,540	135,417	43,730	179,147
March	133,924	42,595	176,519	136,290	44,016	180,306
April	133,517	42,811	176,328	136,524	43,893	180,417
May	134,347	42,768	177,115	136,357	43,878	180,235
June	134,969	42,685	177,754	136,347	43,880	180,227
July	134,232	42,947	177,179	135,696	43,901	179,597
August	134,960	42,933	177,893	135,857	43,758	179,615
September	134,947	43,186	178,133	136,616	43,913	180,529
October	135,008	43,559	178,567	136,291	43,924	180,215
November	135,645	43,962	179,607	136,970	44,401	181,371
December	135,481	44,179	179,660	137,537	44,536	182,073

INDEX OF FACTORY EMPLOYMENT (a)

Month	Factories (Base: 1928/29 (19,799 Employees = 100))				
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
January	208	214	213	226	233
February	212	216	217	228	235
March	215	216	220	231	236
April	215	215	221	230	236
May	216	214	222	231	236
June	215	211	220	230	235
July	218	211	221	229	233
August	217	212	221	229	235
September	216	211	223	228	236
October	217	212	224	230	236
November	217	213	227	231	238
December	215	213	227	232	238

(a) Figures subsequent to June, 1954, are preliminary.

STATE BASIC WAGE

Date of Operation	Metropolitan Area		South-West Land Division		Goldfields and Rest of State	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
31/1/56	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
	12. 13. 8	8. 4. 11	12. 13. 11	8. 5. 0	12. 15. 11	8. 6. 4

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY - METROPOLITAN AREA
(Generated by W.A. Government Power Stations)

Particulars	JANUARY		Seven Months ended JANUARY	
	1955	1954	1955	1954
Units Generated (1000 K.W.H.)	42,552	37,220	297,041	261,097
Units Sent Out (1000 K.W.H.)	38,168	33,515	266,035	234,507

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS IN PRINCIPAL ESTABLISHMENTS

Period	Cattle		Calves		Sheep		Figs	
December, 1955	8,890		435		121,223		13,465	
December, 1954	8,309		432		96,421		16,237	
6 Months ended December, 1955	66,705		2,276		840,492		85,315	
6 Months ended December, 1954	65,703		2,750		692,959		89,850	

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

(Note - Excludes non-casualty accidents where damage was estimated to be £10 or less)

Period	Non-Casualty Accidents (Damage over £10)		Casualty Accidents		Total Accidents Reported		Persons Killed		Persons Injured	
	Metro- politan	Coun- try	Metro- politan	Coun- try	Metro- politan	Coun- try	Metro- politan	Coun- try	Metro- politan	Coun- try
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Year 1953	4,074	1,463	2,024	882	6,098	2,345	99	93	2,430	1,234
Year 1954	5,072	1,824	2,415	874	7,487	2,698	96	89	3,028	1,281
<u>1955 -</u>										
January	409	216	194	93	603	309	12	14	251	128
February	484	137	179	54	663	191	14	7	213	66
March	377	155	192	69	569	224	7	7	223	89
April	472	185	159	79	631	264	11	11	188	114
May	485	162	174	71	659	233	9	5	205	97
June	486	148	175	66	661	214	8	2	215	89
July	580	156	239	84	819	240	11	3	278	127
August	573	162	186	64	759	226	9	4	212	93
September	485	151	186	80	671	231	7	8	213	115
October *	511	184	186	86	697	270	4	2	225	128
November *	455	178	166	81	621	259	9	16	199	116
December	561	195	201	94	762	289	9	10	247	156
Total, Year 1955	5,878	2,029	2,237	921	8,115	2,950	110	89	2,669	1,318

* Revised.

ITEMS OF FACTORY PRODUCTION (SUBJECT TO REVISION)

Item	Unit	JANUARY		Seven Months ended JANUARY	
		1956	1955	1956	1955
<u>Building Materials, etc.</u>					
Bath Heaters - solid fuel	no.	430	279	4,519	4,383
Bricks (in terms of standard size) - Cement	'000	154	704	2,485	6,997
- Clay	'000	5,138	5,152	58,614	58,133
Enamels	gal.	3,959	1,271	50,775	23,077
Fibrous Plaster Sheets	'000 sq.yds.	120	147	1,252	1,398
Paints (Ready Mixed) Excluding Water Paints	gal.	10,838	12,591	119,634	126,318
Tiles, roofing - Cement	'000	472	642	4,957	6,404
Timber, Sawn	'000 sup.ft.	(a) 17,141	(a) 14,404	(b) 120,942	(b) 130,642
<u>Clothing</u>					
Cardigans and Pullovers	doz.	512	466	5,024	5,586
Raincoats (inc. Oilskins)	no.	42	718	3,735	15,567
Men's and Boys'	doz.	1,982	2,101	27,775	34,013
Shirts (all types) Men's and Boys'	doz.	441	424	3,794	5,683
Sports Coats - Men's	no.	115	161	1,780	2,563
Suits - Men's - 3 piece	no.	742	905	13,057	13,789
- 2 piece	no.	2,388	2,546	25,947	31,611
Trousers - Men's - Sport	no.	5,884	4,528	58,117	86,142
- Work (Cotton and Wool)	no.	15,365	16,935	185,660	235,352
Footwear	pair	7,499	4,273	113,726	122,104
Boots and Shoes (all types)	pair	17,735	11,615	217,295	248,334
<u>Food</u>					
Bacon and Ham	'000 lb.	612	555	4,630	4,543
Butter	'000 lb.	1,112	867	13,660	13,067
Cheese	'000 lb.	125	76	1,425	2,088
Confectionery (not chocolate)	'000 lb.	264	192	2,221	2,314
Jams	'000 lb.	42	61	423	355
Margarine	'000 lb.	57	57	688	649
Sauce - Tomato	pint	33,616	40,312	527,411	389,346
<u>Miscellaneous</u>					
Acids - Acetic	cwt.	618	470	3,882	1,760
- Hydrochloric	cwt.	99	54	899	719
- Nitric	cwt.	8	16	188	104
- Sulphuric	ton	15,039	15,320	101,081	85,096
Cycles, Pedal	no.	359	427	4,535	5,062
Gas Produced	million cu. ft.	102	111	872	871
Mattresses - Inner Spring	no.	1,555	1,262	13,106	12,550
- Woven Wire	no.	1,495	990	16,680	19,876
- Soft Filled	no.	2,572	2,359	23,623	24,018
Motor Vehicle Bodies -					
Truck Trays	no.	43	57	440	647
Utilities (all types)	no.	12	20	143	222
Trailers (all types)	no.	16	10	144	121
Perambulators	no.	75	64	398	466

(a) December figures. January not available.

(b) Six months ended December.

